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cont
technology. Fig. 1 shows a schematic line similar to lines 40 and 42 linking central communications facilities 12(#2) through 12(#n) to each other and to remote facility 14, using the communications functionality described above.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims ~~46~~, ~~55~~, ~~56~~, ~~65~~ and ~~66~~ without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein.

F2
76. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 73, wherein said software application is adapted to enable said computerized remote facility to facilitate a transaction using the information provided by said central communications facility.

REMARKS

I INTRODUCTION

Preliminarily, Applicant's counsel wish to extend their gratitude to Examiner Kalinowski for the courtesies extended during the telephonic interviews concerning this application.

Claims 30-87 are pending and stand rejected. Of those, claims 30-87 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph; claims 30-37, 39-43 and 77 stand rejected as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,231,571 to D'Agostino in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,992,940 to Dworkin; claims 44-55, 57-65, 67-76 and 78-87 stand rejected as allegedly